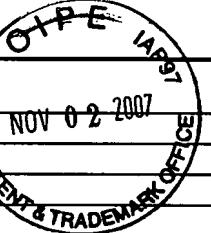


Complete if Known


**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| | | | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|-----------------|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 | Attorney Docket Number | 5049.0007-00000 |
|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|-----------------|

| U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | | US-4,655,753 | 04/07/1987 | Bellotti et al. | |
| | | US-4,882,496 | 11/21/1989 | Bellotti et al. | |
| | | US-6,293,921 | 09/25/2001 | Shinmoto et al. | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |

Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Translation ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | JP2001-037874 | 02/13/2001 | Japan Servo Co. Ltd JMC Co. Ltd. | | Yes Abstract |
| | | JP2001-238945 | 09/04/2001 | JMS Co. Ltd. | | Yes Abstract |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
| | | Francisco MONTEÓN, et al., "Prevention of peritonitis with disconnect systems in CAPD: A randomized controlled trial," <i>Kidney International</i> , Vol. 54 (1998), pp. 2123-2128. | |
| | | Sanjay SAINT, MD, et al., "Preventing Catheter-Related Bacteriuria," <i>ARCH INTERN MED</i> Vol. 159, April 26, 1999. | |
| | | Mona F. MELHEM, et al., "α-Lipoic Acid Attenuates Hyperglycemia and Prevents Glomerular Mesangial Matrix Expansion in Diabetes," <i>Journal of the American Society of Nephrology</i> , Vol 13, pp. 108-116, 2002. | |
| | | Russell D. CLARK, "Peritonitis prevented in continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis by using the Hong Kong connection," <i>British Medical Journal</i> , Vol. 288, pp. 353-356, February 4, 1984 | |
| | | J.S. Tapson, et al., "Experience with the Travenol Ultraviolet Germicidal Exchange System," <i>Contributions to Nephrology</i> , Vol 57, pp. 167-171, 1987. | |
| | | E. Olivas, et al. "Reduction of the Incidence of Peritonitis in CAPD: Effectiveness of Heat Sterilization of Safe Lock Connectors," <i>Contributions to Nephrology</i> , Vol. 89, pp. 62-67, 1991. | |
| | | E.W. Boeschoten, et al., "Prevention of Peritonitis: Filter or UV System?," <i>Contributions to Nephrology</i> , Vol. 57, pp. 158-166, 1987. | |
| | | R. Hamilton, et al., "Reduction in Peritonitis Frequency by The Dupont Sterile Connection Device," <i>Transactions, American Society for Artificial Internal Organs</i> , Vol 31, 1985, pp. 651-654. | |
| | | | |

| | | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.